



# CITY OF HOUSTON



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING  
WATER PRODUCTION BRANCH / WATER QUALITY SECTION  
7000 Ardmore St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Houston, Texas 77054-2302  
☎ 713-842-4000

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## Requirements to Register as a Backflow Preventer Certified Tester

A formal request should be made, on current company letterhead, in order to include tester's name on a registered tester list. The following documents should be attached:

- **Copy of TCEQ license.**
- **Copy of certificate for successfully completing the approved course on cross-connection control and backflow prevention assembly testing.**
- **Copy of current test gauge calibration report.**

Please be aware of the following relevant TCEQ Rules & Regulations:

**§290.44(h)(4)(A)** *Recognized backflow prevention assembly testers shall have completed an executive director approved course on cross-connection control and backflow prevention assembly testing, pass an examination administered by the executive director, and hold current professional certification as a backflow prevention assembly tester.*

**§290.44(h)(4)(A)(i)** *Backflow prevention assembly testers are qualified to test and repair assemblies on any domestic, commercial, industrial or irrigation service.*

**§290.44(h)(4)(A)(ii)** *Backflow prevention assembly testers may test and repair assemblies on firelines only if they are permanently employed by an Approved Fireline Contractor. The State Fire Marshall's office requires that any person performing maintenance on firelines must be employed by an Approved Fireline Contractor.*

**§290.44(h)(4)(B)** *Gauges used in the testing of backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested for accuracy annually in accordance with the University of Southern California's Manual of Cross-Connection Control or the American Water Works Association Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control (Manual M14). Public water systems shall require testers to include test gauge serial numbers on "Test and Maintenance" report forms and ensure testers have gauges tested for accuracy.*

In conjunction with the above, please make note of the following:

- **In order to receive a unique City of Houston tester number please contact Mr. Tom Nguyen at (713) 842-4013.**
- **Appointments must be scheduled in advance with Mr. Nguyen. Arrivals without an appointment are not given any guarantee that they will be assisted.**
- Upon accepting and approving a request, the tester's name will be placed on the registered tester list. A blank City of Houston Backflow Prevention Assembly Test and Maintenance Report form will be supplied. The form may be reproduced and used immediately without any variations.
- In order to remain current on the City of Houston registered tester list and to maintain proficiency an 8-hour approved Backflow Prevention Assembly Testing refresher course must be taken. Also, 24 hours must be accumulated within three years in order to renew the license. Copy of the license must be submitted to the Cross-Connection Control Group.